

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5776

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0303

PASS COMMERCE FOR BEWT/TDAD (STECHSCHULTE)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, UR, CZ

SUBJ: AMMONIA PLANT IN USSR

1. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BRIEF SUMMARY OF MAJOR AMMONIA PLANT PROJECT IN USSR FOR WHICH WE UNDERSTAND U.S. FIRM M.W. KELLOGG (1300 THREE GREENWAY PLAZA EAST, HOUSTON, TEXAS, 77046) HAS WON CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT. OUR INQUIRY RELATES TO POSSIBLE DEAL BETWEEN KELLOGG AND CZECHOSLOVAK TRUST FOR CHEMICAL AND FOOD INDUSTRY ENGINEERING WORKS, CHEOPOS, FOR JOINT COOPERATION IN SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT FOR SOVIET AMMONIA PLANT.

2. EMBOFF WAS APPROACHED RECENTLY BY CHEOPS OFFICIAL CONCERNING DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE TO BEGIN IN 1974 BETWEEN SOVIETS AND KELLOGG ON PROJECT SCHEDULE. OFFICIAL SUGGESTED THAT KELLOGG WOULD BE IN BETTER POSITION TO TALK TO SOVIETS, IF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH CZECHS WERE UNDERWAY BEFOREHAND.

3. EMBOFF PLANS TO PAY CALL AT CHEOPS IN BRNO ON FEBRUARY 28 AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF COMMERCE COULD INFORM US BEFORE THEN WHETHER KELLOGG COOPERATION WITH CHEOPS IN FACT CONTEMPLATED AND, IF SO, WHERE MATTERS NOW STAND.

4. IN ADDITION, CHEOPS OFFICIAL INDICATED CHEOPS MAY ALSO BECOME
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INVOLVED WITH LUMMUS COMPANY (COMBUSTION ENGINEERING), BLOOMFIELD,

NEW JERSY., AND STONE-WEBSTER ENGINEERING COPR., BOSTON,
IN COOPERATING ON CONSTRUCTION OF ETHYLENE PLANTS IN USSR.
SHERER

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NNN

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